

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4-6, and 20-34 are allowed. Accordingly, claims 2, 3, 7-19 are at issue. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim 16 is objected to as containing informalities. In accordance with the Examiner's recommendation, claim 16 has been amended to replace the language "ones of the" with "respective." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claim 16 is now obviated.

Claims 2 and 7-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. Claims 2, 7, 8, 12, and 13 are amended to address the indefiniteness noted in the Action. Specifically, claims 2, 8-10 and 12 have been amended to positively claim the three-point restraint arrangement, with claim 2 also positively claiming the four-point restraint arrangement. Claims 7 and 13 have been amended to clarify the features claimed therein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the indefiniteness rejections of claims 2 and 7-19 are now obviated.

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to clarify language therein and to provide claim language consistent with other claims.

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 7, 10-12, 15-17, and 19 is noted with appreciation. Accordingly, claim 10 is rewritten in independent form to address the indefiniteness rejection and to include the limitations in claim 8 so that it should now be in condition for allowance. Claim 11 is rewritten in independent form to address the indefiniteness rejection and to include the limitations in claim 8 so that it should now be in condition for allowance. Claim 15 is rewritten in independent form to address the indefiniteness rejection noted in its base claim 13 and to include the limitations in claim 13 so that it, and claim 19 which depends therefrom, should now be in condition for allowance. Claim 16 is

rewritten in independent form to address the indefiniteness rejection noted in its base claim 13 and to include the limitations in claim 16 so that it, and claim 17 which depends therefrom, should now be in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 8, 9, 13, 14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Martin (3,052,432). The rejection, as it may apply to the claims presented herein, is respectfully traversed.

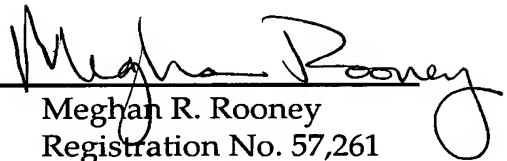
Claims 3, 8, and 13 are directed to a restraint system for a vehicle seat that provides a seat occupant options for multiple seat belt configurations. Claims 3, 8, and 13 call for a plurality of anchor points at various predetermined locations about the vehicle seat from which the seat belt webbing extends. As amended, claims 3, 8, and 13 also require that at least one of the anchor points have a location off of the vehicle seat. No such configuration is disclosed or suggested in the relied upon art.

Martin discloses a harness to be used for an aircraft ejection seat. In the Action, it is stated that Martin shows a plurality of anchor points that can be used in a three-point, four-point or five-point belt arrangement. However, all the anchor points used for the harness in Martin are located on the seat frame. This allows the seat to eject or separate from the aircraft with the harness remaining attached to the seat. If the harness had an anchor point off the seat, then the seat would not freely separate from the aircraft when ejected, but would remain attached to the aircraft by the anchor point located off the seat. As a result, all of the anchor points for the Martin harness must be located on the seat so that the seat may operate for its intended purpose as an aircraft ejection seat. Therefore, the requirement in amended claims 3, 8, and 13 that at least one of the anchor points be located off the vehicle seat distinguishes it from Martin. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 3, 8, and 13, and claims 9, 14, and 18 which depend from their respective parent claims, are allowable over the relied upon art.

Application No.: 10/728,670  
Amendment dated May 30, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of January 30, 2006

Based on the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 2, 3, 7-19  
are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Meghan R. Rooney  
Registration No. 57,261

Date: May 30, 2006

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY  
120 South LaSalle, Suite 1600  
Chicago, Illinois 60603-3406  
Telephone: 312/577-7000  
Facsimile: 312/577-7007